Copy of a Letter from His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to Earl Spencer.

Dublin Caſtle, 27th February 1806.

My Lord,

HAVING felt it my duty, in conſequence of the Report of the Commiſſioners of Enquiry, appointed by an Act of the laſt Seſſion, and of the authority veſted by that Act in the Lord Lieutenant, or other Chief Governor or Chief Governors of Ireland, for the time being, to ſuſpend the Corporation of Directors and Commiſſioners for paving, cleanſing, and lighting the City of Dublin; I think it right to give your Lordſhip the earlieſt information of the courſe I have taken, in order that no time may be loſt, after the Report has been printed, in calling the attention of Parliament to the ſubject.

The ſtate of the Dublin Pavement, and the great inconvenience which has been felt in conſequence of the delays which took place, from cauſes which it is unneceſſary to enumerate, in obtaining from Parliament the neceſſary powers to inveſtigate the proceedings of the Paving Board, which under the Act of the Parliament of Ireland, by which it was conſtituted, was not amenable to any exiſting authority in this country, render it very deſirable that ſome permanent and effectual meaſure ſhould be adopted in the courſe of the preſent Seſſion.

The Report of the Commiſſioners of Enquiry, which reflects great credit on their diligence and attention, as it will undoubtedly ſhow the neceſſity of an early remedy, will afford much uſeful information, as to the nature of the meaſure which it may be proper to recommend.

I was at firſt inclined to believe, that the mode adopted in London and Weſtminſter, of managing the paving and lighting by pariſhes and diſtricts, under Commiſſioners choſen from the reſident houſeholders poſſeſſing a certain property, would have been applicable to this city, and might have been equally effectual and ſatisfactory. But as there are ſome diſtricts in this city where ſuch a ſyſtem could not be conveniently adopted, the Commiſſioners of Enquiry, whoſe opinion I conſider perfectly diſintereſted and entitled to have great weight, are diſpoſed to recommend the eſtabliſhment of a Board, conſiſting of not more than three perſons, ſelected with reference only to their fitneſs for the appointment, and aſſiſted by a practical ſuperintendent to direct the different works.

At the ſame time that I ſuſpended the Corporation for paving, &c. I appointed, under the powers veſted in me by the Act, five perſons, being reſident houſeholders of this city, to exerciſe the powers of the former Board, and to direct and ſuperintend the expenditure of the ſum of twenty thouſand pounds, which the Act provides for, and which will be neceſſarily applied to the immediate repair of the pavement of the ſtreets upon an improved ſyſtem.

I cannot conclude, without adverting to the 16th clauſe of the Act (45 Geo. 3d, chap. 112) which makes the Commiſſioners who are now acting, liable to all claims againſt the late Paving Corporation; and which induces me to hope that the attention of Parliament may be called to this ſubject in ſufficient time to prevent the perſons who have gratuitouſly taken upon themſelves a laborious duty for the advantage of the public, from being expoſed to the anxiety or danger of litigation.

I have the honour to be,

&c. &c. &c.

HARDWICKE.

The Earl Spencer, K. G.

&c. &c. &c.

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